

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Claim 1 (currently amended): A song data reproduction apparatus comprising:
a storage section that stores song data composed of performance data and order information
corresponding to the performance data, the performance data representing a content of a music
performance and containing reproduction limiting information for limiting a reproduction state of
the content of the music performance, the reproduction limiting information specifying a portion of
the content to not be reproduced when the music performance is to be reproduced, the order
information indicating at least either of a purchase or a preview associated to a usage right of the
content of the music performance;

a usage right identification section that refers to the order information of the song data
containing the performance data to be reproduced, for identifying the usage right of the content of
the music performance in terms of the purchase or preview;

a limiting information read section that reads the reproduction limiting information from the
performance data when the identified usage right indicates the preview; and

a reproduction control section that controls the reproduction state of the content of the music
performance in accordance with the read reproduction limiting information.

Claim 2 (original): The song data reproduction apparatus according to claim 1, wherein
the reproduction limiting information contains information for limiting a reproduction time of the
music performance, so that the reproduction control section limits the reproduction time of the
music performance in accordance with the read reproduction limiting information.

Claim 3 (original): The song data reproduction apparatus according to claim 1, wherein
the reproduction limiting information contains information for specifying a channel among a
plurality of channels usable for reproducing the music performance, so that the reproduction control
section uses only the specified channel for reproducing the music performance in accordance with
the read reproduction limiting information.

Claim 4 (original): The song data reproduction apparatus according to claim 1, wherein the reproduction limiting information contains information for specifying functions among various functions available in reproducing of the music performance, so that the reproduction control section enables only the specified functions for reproducing the music performance in accordance with the read reproduction limiting information.

Claim 5 (currently amended): A song data reproduction ~~program for use in method executable by~~ a song data reproduction apparatus having a processor and a storage for storing song data composed of performance data and order information ~~corresponding to the performance data~~, the performance data representing a content of a music performance and containing reproduction limiting information for limiting a reproduction state of ~~the content of~~ the music performance, ~~the reproduction limiting information specifying a portion of the content to not be reproduced when the music performance is to be reproduced~~, the order information indicating at least either of a purchase or a preview associated to a usage right of the content of the music performance, the ~~method program being executable by the processor for causing the song data reproduction apparatus to carry out a process comprising the steps of:~~

~~a usage right identification step of referring to the order information in the song data containing the performance data to be reproduced, for identifying the usage right of the content of the music performance in terms of the purchase or preview;~~

~~a limiting information read step of reading the reproduction limiting information from the performance data when the identified usage right indicates the preview; and~~

~~a reproduction control step of controlling the reproduction state of ~~the content of~~ the music performance in accordance with the read reproduction limiting information.~~

Claim 6 (currently amended): The ~~method song data reproduction program~~ according to claim 5, wherein the reproduction limiting information contains information for limiting a reproduction time of the music performance, so that the reproduction control step limits the reproduction time of the music performance in accordance with the read reproduction limiting information.

Claim 7 (currently amended): The method song data reproduction program according to claim 5, wherein the reproduction limiting information contains information for specifying a channel among a plurality of channels usable for reproducing the music performance, so that the reproduction control step uses only the specified channel for reproducing the music performance in accordance with the read reproduction limiting information.

Claim 8 (currently amended): The method song data reproduction program according to claim 5, wherein the reproduction limiting information contains information for specifying functions among various functions available in the song data reproduction apparatus, so that the reproduction control step enables only the specified functions for reproducing the music performance in accordance with the read reproduction limiting information.

Claim 9 (currently amended): A song data recording medium for recording song data composed of performance data and order information corresponding to the performance data, the performance data representing a content of a music performance and containing reproduction limiting information for limiting a reproduction state of the content of the music performance, the reproduction limiting information specifying a portion of the content not to be reproduced when the music performance is to be reproduced, the order information indicating at least either of a purchase or a preview associated to a usage right of the content of the music performance, wherein the medium is machine readable and operative when the medium is set into a song data reproduction apparatus for causing the song data reproduction apparatus to carry out a sequence of readable by a computer to perform the steps comprising:

referring to the order information in the song data containing the performance data to be reproduced, for identifying the usage right of the content of the music performance in terms of the purchase or preview;

reading the reproduction limiting information from the performance data when the identified usage right indicates the preview; and

controlling the reproduction state of the content of the music performance in accordance with the read reproduction limiting information.

Claim 10 (original): The song data recording medium according to claim 9, wherein the reproduction limiting information contains information for limiting a reproduction time of the music performance, whereby the song data reproduction apparatus limits the reproduction time of the music performance in accordance with the read reproduction limiting information.

Claim 11 (original): The song data recording medium according to claim 9, wherein the reproduction limiting information contains information for specifying a channel among a plurality of channels usable for reproducing the music performance, whereby the song data reproduction apparatus uses only the specified channel for reproducing the music performance in accordance with the read reproduction limiting information.

Claim 12 (original): The song data recording medium according to claim 9, wherein the reproduction limiting information contains information for specifying functions among various functions available by the song data reproduction apparatus, whereby the song data reproduction apparatus enables only the specified functions for reproducing the music performance in accordance with the read reproduction limiting information.

Claim 13 (currently amended): A server apparatus connectable to a user terminal through a communication network, comprising:

a receiving section that receives an order for requesting a review of a song from the user terminal through the communication network; and

a transmitting section that transmits data of the song to the user terminal through the communication network, wherein

the data of the song comprises performance data and order information corresponding to the performance data, the performance data representing a content of a music performance of the song and containing reproduction limiting information for limiting a reproduction state of the content of the music performance, the reproduction limiting information specifying a portion of the content not to be reproduced when the music performance is to be reproduced, the order information indicating that a usage right of the content of the music performance is limited to the preview,

thereby enabling the user terminal to recognize from the order information that the usage right of the content of the music performance is limited to the preview, and enabling the user terminal to control the reproduction state of the content of the music performance in accordance with the reproduction limiting information.

Claim 14 (original): The server apparatus according to claim 13, wherein the receiving section receives another order for requesting a license of the song to remove limitation of the reproduction of the music performance, and the transmitting section transmits an updated order information indicating that the usage right of the content of the music performance is a purchase of the song, thereby enabling the user terminal to recognize from the updated order information that the usage right of the content of the music performance is switched to the purchase, and enabling the user terminal to reproduce the music performance without any limitation under the license.

Claim 15 (original): The server apparatus according to claim 13, wherein the reproduction limiting information contains at least one of information for limiting a reproduction time of the music performance, information for limiting a plurality of channels usable for reproducing the music performance, and information for limiting various functions available for reproducing the music performance.

Claim 16 (new): The song data reproduction apparatus according to claim 1, wherein the storage section stores order information indicating a level of the preview associated to one or more levels of the usage right, and stores the reproduction limiting information specifying one or more conditions of limiting the reproduction state of the content of the music performance in correspondence to one or more levels of the preview;

the limiting information read section reads one of the conditions of limiting the reproduction state specified by the reproduction limiting information from the performance data in correspondence to the level of the preview indicated by the order information; and

the reproduction control section controls the reproduction state of the content of the music performance in accordance with the read condition specified by the reproduction limiting information.

Claim 17 (new): The method according to claim 5, wherein the storage stores order information indicating a level of the preview associated to one or more levels of the usage right, and stores the reproduction limiting information specifying one or more conditions of limiting the reproduction state of the content of the music performance in correspondence to one or more levels of the preview;

said step of reading comprises reading one of the conditions of limiting the reproduction state specified by the reproduction limiting information from the performance data in correspondence to the level of the preview indicated by the order information; and

said step of controlling comprises controlling the reproduction state of the content of the music performance in accordance with the read condition specified by the reproduction limiting information.

Claim 18 (new): The medium according to claim 9, wherein
the medium stores order information indicating a level of the preview associated to one or
more levels of the usage right, and stores the reproduction limiting information specifying one or
more conditions of limiting the reproduction state of the content of the music performance in
correspondence to one or more levels of the preview; and wherein
said step of reading comprises reading one of the conditions of limiting the reproduction
state specified by the reproduction limiting information from the performance data in
correspondence to the level of the preview indicated by the order information; and
said step of controlling comprises controlling the reproduction state of the content of the
music performance in accordance with the read condition specified by the reproduction limiting
information.